

## SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS COMMUNICATIONS

## **NEWS**

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Sedgwick County Fire Department to Conduct House Burn**

(Sedgwick County, Kansas) –The Sedgwick County Fire Department has scheduled a "House Burn" training exercise for Saturday, October 12 beginning at 8:30 a.m.

The training exercise will take place at 9165 S. 231 street West.

The house being used in the training exercise is part of FEMA's "flood buyout." Through FEMA's "flood buyout" program, FEMA allots so much money for property in an area. Residents that have been victim to a flood are eligible for the money. Once the property has been purchased it is then turned over to the local government with the stimulation that it must be destroyed and nothing can be built in that area again.

In this case, this house was purchased by FEMA in 1998 and turned over to Sedgwick County. Sedgwick County has used this property as a place for training for the Sedgwick County Sheriff and Fire Departments.

"This 'house burn' will allow Sedgwick County firefighters to conduct fire training exercises in a real setting, while also clearing the property in order to abide by FEMA's flood program regulations," said Chairman Ben Sciortino. "This is a great way for the County to make the best use of resources and money available.

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Directions to this property: Take K-42 to 87<sup>th</sup> Street, turn right and drive one mile. From there, turn south. The house is located along the Ninnescah River

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